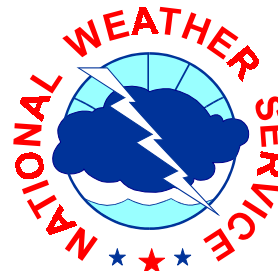


**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
WESTERN REGION  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**



**JULY 3, 2002**

**HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY**

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**Congressional Summer Recess:** Members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives will have their traditional summer district work period from August 5 - September 2. During this time, members of Congress often visit with their constituents and also the Federal agencies within their districts. This is a perfect opportunity to explain to our Nation's legislative leaders how Western Region Forecast Offices and River Forecast Centers complete our mission every day. To invite a Congressional member to your office, please coordinate with the members' district offices early. If you need additional assistance, please contact Marilu Trainor, WR Public Affairs.

**METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION**

**STATEMENT OF THE WEEK:** This week's statement of the week is a severe weather outlook issued by forecaster Don Simonson of WFO Glasgow, MT. The early prediction of severe thunderstorms for the afternoon was right on the mark. WFO Glasgow issued ten severe thunderstorm warnings later in the day, and received twenty-three reports of high winds and one report of large hail. This dovetailed perfectly with the second sentence indicating the main threat would be high winds. Good work Don and WFO Glasgow!

SEVERE WEATHER OUTLOOK  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GLASGOW MT  
622 AM MDT SAT JUN 29 2002

...A MAJOR SEVERE WEATHER OUTBREAK EXPECTED TODAY...

SCATTERED SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS ARE EXPECTED IN NORTHEAST MONTANA TODAY. THE BIGGEST THREAT WITH THESE STORMS IS EXPECTED TO BE WINDS EXCEEDING 58 MPH...CAPABLE OF CAUSING DAMAGE. THEY WILL FIRST FORM EARLY THIS AFTERNOON OVER WESTERN SECTIONS OF NORTHEAST MONTANA...SPREADING EAST DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE AFTERNOON. THE STORMS WILL MOVE OUT OF NORTHEAST MONTANA THIS EVENING.

THE AIRMASS IS HOT AND UNSTABLE...WITH A SOUTHEAST FLOW ALOFT BRINGING MOISTURE IN. THIS WILL COMBINE WITH A COLD FRONT FROM THE

July 3, 2002

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WEST TO CAUSE A MAJOR OUTBREAK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS.

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SIMONSEN

## **HYDROLOGY AND CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION**

**Radiosonde Replacement Systems (RRS):** The Operational Acceptance Test for the replacement system is tentatively scheduled to start in October of 2003. The sites chosen for acceptance testing in Western Region are WFO Salt Lake City, UT and WFO Glasgow, MT.

## **SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION**

**Fire Weather Graphic:** Chelsea Leader and David Zaff (WR/SSD) have put together a program that will graphically display Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings. The prototype image has been placed on the WR homepage at: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>. The offices issue the fire weather products with slight differences in the communication headers. Once these issues are resolved, the graphic will become operational. Questions and comments should be submitted to Chelsea Leader (WR/SSD).

**AWIPS Archive:** NWSHQ sent out an e-mail the end of June to the MICs/HICs, Division Chiefs, SOOs/DOHs, ESAs, and ITOs announcing that they are pursuing an AWIPS baseline archiving solution. A technical summary of the plan was attached to the e-mail message. NWSHQ plans to add a rack mounted Linux machine to perform the archiving. The archive machine is due for delivery in early FY03, and once this is done, we will no longer have to archive data on the WES. Let Kevin Schrab know if you have any questions.

**New Technical Attachment:** This week's Technical Attachment (TA) is entitled "Pacific Decadal Oscillation and Arizona Precipitation," and is authored by Karen D. Maxwell, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ; and Vincent P. Holbrook, Weather Forecast Office, Tucson AZ. The TA is located on the National Weather Service Web site at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>, under "Technical Attachments."

## **SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION**

**AWIPS:** Twenty-one sites in Western Region have upgraded their AWIPS to Release 5.2.1. Half of the sites have installed Maintenance Release 5.2.1.1.

**NOAA Weather Radio:** WRH has put together a new site to input monthly NWR data.

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The site may be accessed at <http://198.177.182.32/Joe/NWR/NWR-Frames.html>. To view monthly NWR availability, please visit: <http://198.177.182.32/Joe/NWR/NWR-Region-Status.php>.

The Burns Butte, Oregon NWR transmitter has been shut down due to interference issues. Filtering will be installed this week.

The Sedgewick Peak, ID NWR is causing interference to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and United States Forest Service (USFS) repeaters. Filtering will be installed this week.

The Browning and Circle, MT NWRs have been shipped from Armstrong.

Bozeman, MT NWR has been installed and will become official on July 8, 2002.

**ASOS:** RMS Steve Kusyj, traveled to WFO Billings and assisted the site technical staff in troubleshooting and calibrating the Baker ASOS. Steve then traveled to WFO Great Falls and assisted the site technical staff in troubleshooting and calibrating the Cut Bank ASOS. Good technical information and expertise were shared and several intermittent problems were isolated and resolved at both ASOS sites.

**Processor Upgrade, Dewpoint Replacement Sensor:** The processor upgrade and dewpoint replacement sensor is making very slow progress. The Processor upgrade is installed at nine Western locations (CZZ, SNT, SLC, PHX, BOI, SFO, P38, P68, and P69). The dewpoint sensor is installed at five Western locations (CZZ, SNT, SLC, PHX, and BOI) and will be installed at P68 soon. There have been several problems with the new processor causing warm starts, especially at the more complex ASOS locations. Programers developed a Watchdog Timer version of the software designed to detect when memory was being accessed when it shouldn't be, perform a warm start of the system after the incorrect memory access, and keep a diagnostic record of what the problem was. However, there were so many improper accesses of memory in the current processor program that the Watchdog Timer software was constantly warm starting the ASOS making the system more unstable than before.

**GSA VEHICLE POC:** The primary point of contact (POC) for GSA vehicles for National Weather Service Western Region is Patrick Fahy, ([patrick.fahy@noaa.gov](mailto:patrick.fahy@noaa.gov)) at 801-524-5120 x280.